(?) definition of scavenger under the scheme should include those who carry night soil and filth and offer order re-survey of scavengers;

(3) enhance stipend and duration of training and associate Non-Govcrnmcntal Organisations;

(4) enhance project cost for rehabilitation from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 5,00,000/-

(5) give publicity to the Scheme;

(6) make timely release of funds by Central and State Govts., and ensure better co-operation of banks;

(7) adopt cluster approach;

(8) make monitoring set-up more effective;

(9) avoid contract system of scavengers and regularise them and provision for separate reservation;

(10) various facilities and career avenues for Safai Karameharis;

(11) Opening of regional offices of Commission as well as cx-officio membership of National Human Rights Commission;

(12) Speed-up implementation of Scheme by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment and put this scheme and scheme for Safai Karamcharis implemented by the Ministry of Welfare under the same Ministry; and

(13) set up a Finance Corporation exclusively for Safai Karamcharis.

Several recommendations have been considered while modifying the guidelines of the national Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents w.e.f. 1.4.1996 which, inter-alia, include;

(1) adoption of TRYSEM norms for training;

(2) release of • Central Assistance directly to SCDCs which are the implementing agencies in States;

(3) adoptior of higher project cost of Rs. 50,000/- per beneficiary for rehabilitation; and

(4) adoption of cluster approach for training and rehabilitation.

The life of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has been extended till 31st march 2002. A national Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation has been set up. The National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and thejr dependents is being extended for implementation during the IX Plan Period. Some of the recommendations of the Commission arc under examination in consultation with the Commission as well as various concerned Central Ministries/ State Governments.

Proper Representation of Minority Community in various Central Police Forces/Establishments

619. SHRI GQVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to ensure proper representation of minority community in terms of their numerical strength in various Central Police forces/ establishments including Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal received/under consideration and decision taken thereon;

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) the fresh initiatives taken by Government for the welfare and economic uplift of members of minority communities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (c) The Government have taken various measures for improving representation of minority communities in Central Police forces/ establishments including State Police forces such as: (i) Nomination of a

member belonging to minorities on Selection Committees/Boards for making recruitment;

(ii) special drives for recruitment of minorities in the Central Police forces in Minority Concentration areas.

(d) The Government has taken the following initiatives for the welfare and economic upliftment of members of minority communities:—

(i) National Minority Development & Finance Corporation is proposed to be strengthened.

(ii) Recasting of the 15 point programme for the welfare of minorities drawn up in 1983 is under active consideration of the Government and is expected to be finalised shortly.

(iii) A scheme of multi-sectoral plans for the purpose of identification of economic activities conspicuously pursued by the minorities with a view to assess their requirement of credit, technological input, training and marketing support is under preparation in 41 minority concentration districts in eleven States.

Financial Assistance to Maharashtra for Development of SCs and STs

620. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details fo financial assistance provided to State Government of Maharashtra by the Centre for the development of SCs and STs during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether any projects were proposed by State Government in this regard during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the achievements made during the said period in the State in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) A statement is annexed *(see* below)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Docs not arise.

(d) At statement annexed.

Statement

Details of Financial Assistance Provided to the State Government of maharashtro under various Schemes for the Development of SCs and STs.

(Rs. in lakhs) (Utilisation Achievements)

SI. No.	Name of Scheme	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1.	Book Banks for SC/ ST	35.54	29.22	—	3998 (B)	952 (B)	—
2.	Girls Hostels for SCs	—	—	21.12	—	—	208 (B)
3.	Boys Hostels for SCs	—	93.83	67.54	—	956 (B)	605 (B)
4.	Upgradation of Merit for SCs/STs	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Coaching & Allied Scheme for SCs/STs	0.80	1.83	—	52 (B)	55 (B)	NA